## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 072892 ORIGIN NASA-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: JOINT PLANETARY EXPLORATION AND POSSIBLE ------- HINNERS VISIT (04.03.05) (04.03.04 AND .05)

REF: STATE 047762, MOSCOW 3029, 3331

## FOR SCICOUN FROM ZOOK

1. NOTWITHSTANDING SOVIET SCIENTISTS' COMMENTS ON US-USSR COOPERATION IN PLANETARY EXPLORATION (PARA 7 OF REFTEL 3331) YOU SHOULD BE AWARE WE HAVE FROM TIME TO TIME EXPLORED THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD JOINT PLANETARY EXPLORATION (E.G., A POSSIBLE JOINT MARS SAMPLE RETRIEVAL PROJECT) BUT RESPONSIBLE SOVIET OFFICIALS HAVE POINTEDLY DECLINED AMBITIOUS EFFORTS OUTSIDE MANNED FLIGHT SPHERE. THE PROSPECT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNSTRUCTURED INFORMATION EXCHANGES LEAVES US RATHER COOL SINCE IT BECOMES VERY DIFFICULT TO ENSURE BALANCE AND MUTUAL INTEREST GIVEN SOVIET SKILLS AT NONCOMMUNICATION VS. AMERICAN OPENESS. NOTE OUR PROPOSALS FOR CAREFULLY STRUCTURED EXCHANGES (SEE PAGE 2, SECTION I, NEAR EARTH SPACE, MOON AND PLANETS, ENCLOSED WITH LOVELACE'S FEBRUARY 8 LETTER TO PETROV ON EXTENSION OF JANUARY 1971 AGREEMENT).

- 2. IF SOVIETS ARE INDEED SERIOUS ABOUT "PROGRAM COOPERATION/COORDINATION" (SAME REFERENCE), ONE MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF HINNERS VISIT COULD BE TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE OF PLANNED FUTURE SOVIET PLANETARY PROGRAMS THAT WOULD FACILITATE PLANNING OUR OWN PROJECTS.
- 3. IN ANY CASE, IT MAY NOT BE DESIRA0LE TO PRESS SUGGESTION FOR VISIT TO LUNOKHOD OPERATIONAL FACILITIES (PARAGRAPH 4-B OF REFTEL 047762) OR OTHER CONTROL FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT APPEAR EFFORT ON OUR PART TO GAIN TECHNICAL/OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE RATHER THAN COORDINATE SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVES.

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TAGS: TSPA, UR, US, (HINNERS, NOEL)

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